

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 F24F5/00 B60H1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F24F B60H

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 430 935 B1 (CONWAY BRET ET AL) 13 August 2002 (2002-08-13) column 6 -column 9; figures 1,3,5	1-19
X	US 5 623 828 A (HARRINGTON STEVEN S) 29 April 1997 (1997-04-29) the whole document	1-3
A	FR 2 724 576 A (ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE) 22 March 1996 (1996-03-22) the whole document	1-19
A	EP 0 342 166 A (URBANO BARBABELLA ;POLCHI FRANCO (IT)) 15 November 1989 (1989-11-15) the whole document	1-19



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 May 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/05/2003

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6430935	B1	13-08-2002	WO	03018336 A1	06-03-2003
US 5623828	A	29-04-1997	NONE		
FR 2724576	A	22-03-1996	FR	2724576 A1	22-03-1996
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			BR	8902202 A	02-01-1990
			EP	0342166 A2	15-11-1989